GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4966
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2003
REQUIREMENT OF AIRCRAFT CARRIERS
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dominance of small ships in the Naval fleet imposes limitations of reach of Indian Navy;

(b) the number of aircraft carriers required by the Indian Navy vis-Ã -vis present number of aircraft carrier with Indian Navy; and

(c) the reasons for treating Indian Navy as `Cindrella service`?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA)

(a) Because of limited endurance of small ships, they impose limitations on the reach of Indian Navy.

(b) One Aircraft Carrier viz. INS Viraat is in service with the Indian Navy against the requirement of two operational Aircraft Carriers.

(c) The Navy is not treated as a `Cindrella service` and its genuine requirements are met.